

First Virtual lets people establish credit-card accounts and use personal code numbers to perform transactions that are confirmed by messages back and forth to the owner's computer. One advantage of First Virtual is that it permits very small transactions, so Internet Casino will be able to operate even nickel slot machines. "Internet gambling is a very important, very interesting experiment," says Thomas Feegel, vice president, marketing, at First Virtual. •

#### ON THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to express my deep concerns about the brinkmanship that has brought us to a government shutdown.

I think it is absolutely crucial that we keep our faith with Federal employees. Using them as pawns in a political game by sending them home without pay is the ultimate breach of the Government's faith with these hard working people. This is the crowning achievement in the Republicans' relentless string of attacks on Federal employees. The motto of these attacks has been promises made, promises broken.

Well, Mr. President, my motto is that promises made should be promises kept. That is why Senator SARBANES and I have introduced legislation to protect Federal employee pay and benefits during a government shutdown. Our legislation will ensure that Federal employees in Maryland and across the Nation will be able to make their mortgage payments, put food on the table, and provide for their families.

A shutdown of the Federal Government, no matter how short, would disrupt the lives of thousands of Federal employees and their families. In my state of Maryland alone, there are more than 280,000 Federal employees. Sending them home would cost Maryland millions of dollars per day.

And let us take a close look at who we are talking about sending home. We are talking about some of the most dedicated and hardest working people in our Nation. Federal employees have devoted their careers and lives to public service, and they help make America a better and safer place. They are the people that keep our Social Security system up and running; do the essential research on disease at the National Institutes of Health; and help ensure public health and safety. They are the people that keep Maryland and America on time with public transportation.

Whenever the subject of deficit reduction comes up, the first people to take a hit are Federal employees. Over the last several years they have been the target of unending attacks. Downsizing, RIF's, diet COLA's, and the threat of furloughs have damaged morale at nearly every Federal agency.

At the same time, employees have been asked to do more with less. I am proud to say that they have accepted this challenge with extraordinary dedication. It is easy to see the results. Just look at the excellent work that is

being done at any Federal agency in Maryland. The crucial advancements in science at Goddard Space Flight Center and the incredible research on disease at the National Institutes of Health are two examples.

I do not want to go back to these dedicated Federal employees and tell them "While you people at Goddard do the research that will bring us into the 21st century, and while you people at NIH launch your assault on deadly diseases, we are going to launch our own assault on your jobs, your pensions and your benefits."

These assaults must stop. We cannot continue to denigrate and downgrade Federal employees and at the same time expect government to work better. We cannot shut down the Government and then expect the same high level of dedication from Federal employees that we have now.

Our Federal employees have a contract with their Government. I urge my colleagues to work to ensure that this contract is honored and Federal jobs and benefits are not put in jeopardy. •

#### HONORING THE BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS

• Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, Saturday was Veterans Day, a day we set aside to honor those brave men and women who have risked their lives for our freedom. I want to call your attention to a group of soldiers who are often forgotten in Veterans Day tributes; namely the 5,000 African-Americans who fought in the Revolutionary War. I also want to make you aware of the efforts underway to finally honor these men with a monument on The Mall. Lastly, I want to speak of a family in my State who is working to make this memorial a reality.

Most Americans remain unaware of the black patriots who gave their lives for the freedom they themselves could not fully enjoy. About 20 percent of the soldiers who drove the British from American soil were African-Americans. Few schoolchildren know that the first victim of the Revolutionary War was an African-American, Crispus Attucks, killed in the Boston Massacre in 1770. Peter Salem, James Armistead, Salem Poor, and Prince Whipple, are just a few of the other black men who served, fought and died in our Nation's war for freedom and independence. Valor and fortitude in battle are especially awe-inspiring when one takes into account the hostility and oppression that African-Americans faced from the nation for which they fought. These men have received little recognition of their sacrifice for their country. Indeed, their contributions have been, "very carefully kept out of sight by orators and toast-drinkers," according to poet John Greenleaf Whittier.

We now have an opportunity to honor and salute the men and women whose actions contributed to the birth of our

Nation, a nation whose Constitution now embodies the very ideals of freedom these patriots risked their lives for. Only in the 150 years since their deaths has this Nation begun to secure and enforce the truths we hold to be self evident: life, liberty; and the pursuit of happiness, for all Americans. The Nation owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to them for their courage to stand with little or no hope of realizing the fruit of their accomplishments.

In 1986 and again in 1988, Congress passed legislation authorizing construction of a monument to these men. The site selected is on The Mall, just north of the Reflecting Pool. Since no taxpayer funds are being used for this monument, Senator CHAFEE and I introduced the S. 953, the black Revolutionary War patriots commemorative coin bill. The bill proposes the minting of 500,000 commemorative coins, which should raise approximately \$5 million for use in financing the monument.

All proceeds over and above the cost of minting the coin will go toward constructions of the monument. This bill is revenue-neutral; it will cost the Federal Government absolutely nothing. The funds are needed to support a monument that will both honor and educate. It will symbolize the struggle of all individuals who have not previously been recognized.

Mr. President, I would now like to speak briefly about some constituents of mine, the Bailey family of Waukegan, IL. Marina Bailey and her three daughters learned about the proposed monument 4 years ago, and they have turned a bedroom of their house into an office for their fundraising efforts. They launched a public awareness campaign in support of the memorial and to make the history of the black Revolutionary War patriots more widely known. Jamila Bailey spoke to neighboring schools from the time she was 16 years old. They have constructed and mailed information packets to schools starting in Illinois, then all over the country, asking students to send funds to the Patriots foundation. The Bailey family has been responsible for thousands of dollars raised for this memorial. Marina Bailey said that her dedication to this project is to promote awareness and celebration of our diversity and the contributions we have all made to our Nation. "We are a quilt," she said, "We are not a sheet. All of us together make up the beauty and diversity of the American people."

Like the Bailey family, I want this memorial to become a reality. The best way to ensure that is through swift passage of the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Commemorative Coin Act. As citizens who benefit daily from the sacrifices made by those previously unrecognized soldiers, I call upon my colleagues for their cosponsorship and help in expediting the passage of S. 953. The passage of this bill will ensure swift construction of this memorial, so that America may finally bestow honor